GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2958
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
SETTING UP OF INTER STATE TRADE COUNCIL .
Kathiria Dr. Vallabhbhai;Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) The names of the States that have not so far set up Inter-State Trade Council alongwith the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(b) The action taken by the Union Government against such States;

(c) The number of States having functional WTO cells;

(d) Whether the Government proposes to plan coordination in the activities of these cells; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Government of India policy framework does not envisage setting up of Inter state Trade council at the state level.

Inter-State Trade Council is a permanent advisory body set up by Government of India on 24.6.2005 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister, Govt. of India; Chief Ministers of the states or State Cabinet Ministers nominated by concerned Chief Ministers and certain other dignitaries as Members Director General Foreign Trade is the Member Secretary of the Council .

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d)& (e) : There is no proposal to plan coordination in the activities of the WTO cells functioning in the States. However, State Governments are regularly consulted on matters relating to WTO negotiations.